

Boston, October, 17. 1835

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My dear friend,

You have doubtless seen in the New York papers sundry attacks upon me. One of these has its origin in a conversation I had (when we were together in Andover) with a young gentleman from the South, a student in the Theological Seminary. You were present during much of that conversation - perhaps the whole - and I well recollect that you held a debate with the same gentleman. Permit me therefore to request that you will state upon paper what you recollect of that conversation, bearing upon the matter in question. I had probably deemed it advisable to publish your statement.

Very truly Yours,

Rev. A. A. Phelps. Geo Thompson

P.S. I greatly regret to say, that, ^{owing to} a variety of circumstances, chiefly of a domestic character, I shall not be able to attend the Convention. You will I believe be subjected to annoyance & insult if not to danger & death.

George Thompson

Sorrowfully would I share these with you if I could by any means, with propriety, leave this neighborhood. Will you be kind enough to apologise for my absence. I think you know me well enough to be able reassure my beloved brethren with all confidence that it is not the prospect of danger that keeps me away. My heart is with ^{you} ~~with~~. When adversity arrives I shall yearn to be amongst you. May God bless and prosper you. The darts of our enemies fly thick, but the shield of Jehovah is above us. I am not dismayed by any thing I have experienced - neither am I at all discouraged. I think I perceive plainly the onward progress of our cause, and that all things are working for the good of that cause. Courage, dear brother! To all around you I would say courage! In the strength of God let us cease not day nor night to cry aloud in behalf of the oppressed. If death comes to us while so employed we shall not die too soon for our usefulness - our honor or our reward. Should we die in this ^{work} ~~with~~ it will be because

our gracious Father ordains that by our death
we shall advance the cause we love more
than by our life. I have just perused the life
of Sir Henry Vane, and have derived comfort & energy
from the following sweet passage written by that
distinguished Republican & Christian in the near prospect
of a violent death for upholding the principles
of civil & religious liberty.

"If God, then, do think fit to permit such a dispensation
to pass upon us, it is for the punishment of our
sins, & for a plague to those that are the
actors therein; to bring more swift exemplary
vengeance upon them. Such as have discharged a good conscience,
in what may most offend the higher powers, are not to fear,
though they be admitted to the exercise of their rule with
an unrestrained power & everypowerful mind."

"Though from that mountain, the storm that comes be very terrible,
yet some are safest in storms as experience shows. Yea, best
therein, by God's mercies, when their greatest enemies think most
irrevocably to undo them."

Direct here to the care of Mr. H. E. Benson
46 Washington Street Boston



The Rev. Amos A. Phelps,

Care of African Church Burying

Utica

New York —



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George Thompson